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. . . There is nothing definite to report as yet in regard to the peace negotiations in South Africa. The Boer leaders have been in earnest consultation, and have been taking the sentiments of the burghers in the commandoes. No truce has been declared, though Kitchener's forces have given the Boer leaders every opportunity for carrying on their consultations. There have been several minor engagements, and Kitchener continues to report his weekly "bag." The "bag" on the other side is not reported.

. . . Hon. Fredrik Bajer, president of the Society for the Neutralization of Denmark, has just published in pamphlet an able article, which appeared first in the "*Revue de Droit International et de Législation Comparée*," on "Federative Neutrality." It sets forth, with the reasons for it, a scheme for a peace alliance of the smaller states. The pamphlet is in French and is published by A. Pedone, Paris, 9 rue D' Egmont.

. . . Mayor Seth Low of New York, one of the delegates to the Hague Peace Conference in 1899, has sent to the English Church at The Hague, in which he worshipped at the time, a memorial of the Conference. It is a church window, with a picture of the Christ surrounded by figures of angels and representations of Faith, Hope and Love. Above the Christ figure is inscribed in Latin his saying: "*Pacem meam do vobis*" (My peace I give unto you). Below are the words: "An American Memorial of the International Conference of Peace."

. . . The British Indian Famine Commissioners have estimated that, in spite of the efforts made for the relief of the people, the number of deaths in British India during the recent famine was one and one-quarter millions. The *Arbitrator* comments thus: "The root of the evil is the land tribute. In Bombay one-fourth of the peasantry have lost their lands, and less than a fifth are free from debt. India is a poor country, and its peasantry are ground to the dust by a gigantic standing army. Taxation makes it impossible for the cultivators to provide for a time of scarcity."

. . . In a recent article in *Household Words* (London), Mr. Hall Caine says: "I am compelled to conclude that, according to the teaching of the Christian religion, it is not right to fight, and that the spectacle of two Christian nations praying to the same God for success for their opposing armies, ringing their church bells to celebrate their victory or to lament their defeat, singing on the one hand their *Te Deum* and on the other their *Miserere*, and all in the name of Him who said "Resist not evil," is a spectacle of deeper and crueller irony than anything else that civilization at this moment presents."

. . . In reply to the vote of thanks of the President and Fellows of Harvard University to the German Emperor for his proposed gift to the Germanic Museum, Emperor William has, through Mr. Jackson, chargé of the U. S. Embassy at Berlin, sent a telegram to Secretary Hay again expressing his thanks for all the kindness shown Prince Henry during his recent visit to the United States. Some Americans vote their thanks to the Prince for his recent public declaration that he found in the United States evidences that the country is something else than a "dollar-hunting nation."

. . . Late Russian government statistics state that during the year 1899 there were 18,029 officers in the Russian army who fell ill, of whom 265 died. In the rank and file of the army there were 322,686 cases of illness, and 5034 deaths.

. . . On the last day of March the Colombian Minister at Washington, Señor Concha, delivered to Secretary Hay a protocol between his government and that of the United States, under the terms of which Colombia concedes the rights necessary for the construction of a Panama canal, and unqualified consent to the sale of the rights of the new Panama Canal Company to the United States government.

## PUBLIC MEETING IN TREMONT TEMPLE IN THE INTERESTS OF ARBITRATION AND PEACE.

Address by Hon. William I. Buchanan,  
Delegate of the United States  
to the Mexican Conference.

### Results of the International American Conference at Mexico City.

On the 15th of April a public meeting in the interests of International Arbitration and Peace was held in Lorimer Hall, Tremont Temple, Boston, under the auspices of the American Peace Society and the Committee of the Twentieth Century Club on International Relations. The principal address of the evening was given by Hon. William I. Buchanan of Iowa, one of the United States delegates to the recent Pan-American Conference, who had been invited to speak on the results of that Conference. Addresses were also made by Dr. Edward Everett Hale and Edwin D. Mead, the latter speaking on the work of the late John de Bloch. We give below these addresses, which were all able and interesting and held the undivided attention of the audience for nearly two hours:

The President of the American Peace Society, Hon. Robert Treat Paine, presided, and on opening the meeting made the following remarks:

#### GROUNDWORK FOR ENCOURAGEMENT.

Once more, friends and supporters of the great cause of peace on earth and arbitration among nations, we meet in this town of Boston to thank God and take courage. Though mists have obscured our horizon for the last few years, yet whoever looks up to the zenith can see the vault of heaven and the wisely ordered progression of the governing forces of the universe obedient to the will of God.

Three years of merciless war in South Africa have manifested the cruel ambition of England to extend her empire through the blood and desolation and final annihilation of the liberties of a brave and sturdy people who have surpassed in enduring fortitude all other struggling nations since the sun went down at Yorktown.

Three years of equally cruel war against the Filipinos have manifested the unholy ambition of America to extend her rule through the blood and desolation and final annihilation of the liberties of a simple race to whom we came in the guise of liberators and friends.

The cruelties which the Anglo-Saxon race have thus continued to inflict upon men bravely struggling for the independence which the noble monument on Bunker Hill and the new monument just dedicated on Dorchester Heights prove were dear to our own race,—these ghastly cruelties have outraged the conscience and the sense of justice—I wish I might finish my sentence and say—of every right-minded American. Thank God that in the blackness of darkness which has prevailed for these last many months, signs are beginning to appear of a breaking-up and of a letting in the light of peace. Thank God that there are signs pretty evident across our land that America is coming to think that she has been engaged in a sorry business and is ashamed of her record, and is unwilling to have published to the world official reports of our own honorable officers who speak the whole truth too plainly out.

But this meeting is held to rejoice over some of the convincing proofs that the world is making progress in the direction which lovers of peace ardently desire. In spite of these two wars in South Africa and the Philippine Islands, both of which seem doubly wicked because we know that they were both needless, the progress of the world in the last fifteen years toward the final abolition of war has been more gratifying than ever before in the march of history.

Charles Sumner delivered his great oration on the "True Grandeur of Nations" nearly sixty years ago. Shortly thereafter came a period of wars—the Crimean, Italian, Austrian, our own Civil War, the Franco-Prussian and the Russo-Turkish. But since then there has come a new and different epoch. Its beginning was marked perhaps by the year 1887, when two hundred and thirty-three members of the British Parliament urged upon the President and Congress of the United States the conclusion of a treaty between these two great Anglo-Saxon nations in favor of arbitration.

The history of the events marking the progress of the movement in favor of arbitration since that year is familiar. Treaties of arbitration have been proposed and almost perfected. The great prophet of an international tribunal to keep the peace of the world, who has so powerfully advocated the idea in recent years, sits on this platform, ready in his green old age for many years to come to speak words of inspiration to promote the cause so dear to his heart, and for whose success the world owes him more, in my judgment, than to any other living man.

The Conference of The Hague, for which the proposals of the Czar of Russia were received with ill-concealed contempt from many sources, has become the cornerstone of the future monument of peace. The last addition to this growing monument is the acceptance of this international tribunal by the assembled States of this hemisphere. Little would any man have dreamed a score of years ago that the States of South America would wheel into line and accept this great step onward of Christian civilization. The triumphant results of the Conference of delegates from this hemi-

sphere which has recently concluded its deliberations in the City of Mexico are a profoundly interesting achievement. The leader of the delegates from the United States was the Hon. William I. Buchanan, whom we have gathered to-night to hear speak on the results of the Conference.

Mr. Paine then introduced Mr. Buchanan, who, after expressing his gratification at the compliment paid him in having been invited to speak on the work of the Mexican Conference and his pleasure in having on the platform the distinguished and well-known American, Dr. Hale, spoke as follows:

## Address of Hon. William I. Buchanan.

### The Mexican Conference and Arbitration.

During the past few years our relations with the eighteen Republics south of us have become questions of interest and importance. This has been especially true since the Spanish-American War, growing out of which we have become through new responsibilities identified to a greater degree than before with Spanish-American language and thought. We have certainly been remiss in not having taken up years ago, as we are now doing, the endeavor to know the people and possibilities of these Republics better, and to have ourselves better known by them. We have certainly lost much by our negligence, both in commerce and in prestige among them. We begin to realize how far removed they are from us when we think that forty-five millions of their people speak the Spanish language, ten millions Portuguese, and two millions more French; and that in all the Republics of which I speak we have less than thirty-five thousand Americans; that we have no ships or banks there; and that in our own country not one person out of every three thousand can intelligently speak either of the two first languages I have named, while the number among us conversant with Spanish-American laws and judicial procedure can be counted probably within one hundred.

All this has made the two Pan-American Conferences that have been held national landmarks that will remain as points of beginning in the story of that better understanding between our people and those of our sister American Republics, that can only be woven in friendship, goodwill and confidence between each and all.

The first Conference, held twelve years ago, did not give the practical results many expected. It did much, however, in the interest of cordiality between the Republics represented, and left one good piece of work of a practical nature—the Bureau of American Republics. This Bureau was made an International Bureau in fact by the Mexican Conference, and given a wider scope within which to work.

The greatest good resulting from international conferences is that of acquaintance; a knowledge on the part of each delegation of the difficulties surrounding other delegations; the opportunity to measure and estimate men and to weigh the forces and resources behind them, and to gauge one's self and country. Undoubted good comes from such contact even though it be neither